

XM Satellite Radio offers a wonderful service with its traffic/weather channels. I can find out immediately if traffic is going to make me late for a flight from the airport, for example. If I only have access to FM traffic assistance, I could easily find myself in the middle of a traffic jam before the station ever mentions it. It seems as though useful information is an annoyance that gets in the way of their commercials. XM traffic is also a wonderful service in that it goes 24/7. FM stations would lead you to believe that traffic backups only occur during rush hours. I EXPECT traffic to be messed up at 6 p.m.; it's the snarls at 11:00 a.m. that get ignored by local radio.

You simply can't get this kind of instant information on local radio. If I'm willing to pay for the information, why in the world would someone legislate that I shouldn't be allowed access to it?

I urge you to reject petition 04-160.

Thank you,

Joy Stovall